

## **T.E.M.I.S. HISTORY**

In 1981, The Department of Health Services (DHS) was designated as the County local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency by the Board of Supervisors pursuant to State law. Responding to State law and Board of Supervisors mandated responsibilities, in 1984, TEMIS (Trauma and Emergency Medicine Information System) was developed to meet reporting, system management, monitoring, and evaluation requirements. A trauma registry portion of the system tracked the critically injured from dispatch of the 9-1-1 responding vehicle through discharge or death.

The initial data system started in 1984 was a FOCUS-based system, managed by ISD. Faced with the availability of improved technology and dissatisfaction with the system by all users, DHS, with the concurrence of the TEMIS user community and ISD, determined that migrating to a technologically more advanced system would be extremely advantageous. Benefits derived from setting up a new system included eliminating the difficulties resulting from shared maintenance responsibilities for personal computer equipment owned and maintained by hospitals, and the opportunity to take advantage of advances in personal computer software technology that was superior to the initial TEMIS program used to generate local reports.

Perhaps most important was developing medical expertise in the selected product and the on-site contractor support staff. Reductions in excessive ongoing training and lengthy delays in report generation were accomplished with the replacement of the old FOCUS-based system.

With TEMIS funded using a combination of fees from base and trauma hospitals and SB 12/612 funds, DHS partnered with the user community to conduct a search for a replacement product that would improve performance, take advantage of the latest technology, be more cost-effective and provide oversight to a diverse group of users.